GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:310
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
MEETING OF VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Vigilance and Monitoring Committees constituted to monitor the implementation of the rural development schemes have not held meeting despite the requests of the Members of Parliament alongwith reasons therefor, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to withhold the Central assistance of those States where these Committees have not been set up or their meetings have not been held;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the other measures being taken by the Government to ensure holding of meetings of the Committees regularly?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) The Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim and West Bengal have not informed whether their Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been reconstituted and their meetings are being held.

(b) to (d) The Union Minister of Rural Development has written to all the Chief Ministers emphasizing the importance of these committees for the effective implementation of Rural Development Programmes and clarifying that they are no less significant than the Audit Reports and Utilisation Certificates which are mandatory for the release of second instalment.For defaulting districts the Ministry may consider withholding releases as is being done in the case of non-submission of Audit Reports etc. The instructions have been reiterated by the Ministry to the Chief Secretaries of the States.